

PUBLIC NOTICE

US Army
Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore
District

In Reply to Application Number CENAB-OP-RMS(LAKE SERVICES INCIDREDGING, STONE SILL &SHED)06-60135-4

PN 05-50

Comment Period: November 9,2005 to November 30,2005

THE PURPOSE **OF** THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE **PUBLIC** ABOUT **THE** WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISIONHAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED.

The Baltimore District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as described below:

APPLICANT: Lake Services, Inc.

c/o Coastline Design, P.C.

P.O. Box 157

Achilles, Virginia 23001

LOCATION: In Piney Point Creek at Piney Point, St. Mary's County, Maryland.

WORK: The applicant proposes to dredge by mechanical method a 60-foot by 1,000-foot entrance channel extension to -5.0 feet mean low water. The resulting approximately 4,800 cubic yards of silty sand is to be deposited in an upland (non-wetland) disposal site within a farm field on the applicant's property; to create approximately 40,000 square feet of tidal marsh along approximately 2,650 linear feet shoreline sections by depositing approximately 500 cubic yards of sloped, clean select sand fill stabilized with Spartina alterniflora and S. Patens, averaging 15 feet wide, and 2,500 linear feet of low-profile stone sill, averaging 10 feet wide, with 14 openings to extend no more than 30 feet channelward of the approximate mean high water (MHW) shoreline; and to repair, in place, an existing 6-foot by 150-foot pier with a 6-foot by 106-foot "L" walkway and an 80-foot by 38-foot covered boathouse elevated 51 feet above the approximate mean low water level, to extend no more than 150 feet channelward of the approximate MHW shoreline. The purpose of the proposed project is improved navigational access. All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mrs. Kathy Anderson at (410) 962-5690.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 04-267), requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely effect essential fish habitat (EFHJ. The project sire lies in or adjacent to SFH as described under MSFCMA for Scopthalmus agoss (windowpane flounder) juvenile and adult; Pomatomus saltatrix (blue fish) juvenile and adult; Paralicthys dentatus (summer flounder) juvenile and adult; and eggs, larvae, juvenile, and adult stages of Sciaenops ocellatus (red drum), Scomberomorus cavalla (king mackerel), Scomberomorus magulatus (spanish mackerel), and Rachventron cavalum (cobia), managed species under the MSFCMA. The project has the potential to adversely effect FFH or the species of concern by loss of spawning, nursery, forage and/or shelter habitat. The Baltimore District has determine that the adverse effects of this project would not be substantial and an abbreviated consultation will be conducted with NMFS. No mitigative measures are recommended to minimize adverse effects on EFH at this time. This determination may be modified if additional information indicates otherwise and would change the preliminary determination.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics,

aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public: Federal. State, and local agencies and officials: Indian Tribes; and other interested-parties in order to-consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts an endangered species, historic properties, Water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments ire-used in the preparation-of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the Maryland Department of the Environment. Any written Comments concerning the work described above which relate to water quality certification must be received by the Standards and Certification Division Maryland Department of the Environment, Montgomery Park Business Center. 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708 within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must he received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District. PO Box 1715, Baltimore. Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. The 401 certifying agency-has a statutory limit of one year to make its decision.

The applicant has certified in this application that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Maryland Coastal Zone Program. This certification statement is available for inspection in the District Office; however, public comments relating to consistency must be received by the Coastal Zone Division, Maryland Department of the Environment, Montgomery Park Business Center, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland, 21230-1708, within the comment period as specified above. It should he noted that CZ Division has a statutory limit of 6 months in which to make its consistency determination.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional **information** may **become** available which could modify this preliminary determination.

Review of the latest published version of the National Register of **Historic** Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for **inclusion** therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific. prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must he in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified as above to receive consideration. Also, it must clearly state forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity in the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:





